



In This Issue: *The works of photographer Robb Siverson are on display in the offices of Governor John Hoeven and First Lady Mikey Hoeven during the months of January, February and March; and artist Marsha Lehmann's works will be on display during the months of April, May and June. Page 3 & 4*

North Dakota Council on the Arts Celebrating 40 Years! (1967-2007)



NDCA Board Chair Honored by the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies with the 2007 Distinguished Public Service Award



David "White Thunder" Trottier

The National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) named David "White Thunder" Trottier of Rugby, ND, the recipient of its 2007 Distinguished Public Service Award. The award was presented during Assembly 2007, NASAA's annual conference in Baltimore, Maryland, December 6-8. It honors an individual volunteer leader whose outstanding service, creative thinking and leadership have had a significant impact on the field of public support for the arts in his or her state or region.

Trottier has served on the North Dakota Council on the Arts as a Governor appointee since 1991. In 1998, he was appointed board chair and continues to serve in this role. Throughout his tenure, Trottier has continued to work actively throughout the state, region and nation to advocate for the arts. He is especially regarded for giving voice to issues facing America's rural arts communities.

Trottier is also known for his exemplary business career. For 14 years he served as President and CEO of Chiptronics Inc., an electronics manufacturing distributorship. During this time, Trottier took the company from \$5 million to \$40 million in annual sales and turned it into a well recognized national and international company. His myriad other achievements include being named the ND Business Innovator of the Year (2002); selection as Mayville State Commencement Speaker (2002); selection as Distinguished Alumni of Mayville State University (2002); runner-up for National Indian Business Owner of the year in 1997 and 2005; completing a six year term with the ND Community Foundation, the last year as Chairman; and serving a three year term on the NASAA Board of Directors (2000-2002).

David with NDCA staff members, (from left to right) Troyd Geist, Linda Ehreth, Jan Webb and Amy Schmidt

Resources for the Heart of America Medical Center. He also continues to perform in local theater and with his band as a vocalist and guitarist. With a deep passion for the arts since an early age, Trottier has come to advocate that, "The arts are for all of the people, all of the time."

In announcing the award, NASAA's chief executive officer Jonathan Katz said, "We are honored to bestow this award upon David. David's recognition and promotion of the rural voice as an essential element of cultural policy serves his state and region well. As a NASAA board member, his insights and support were highly valued. He is a natural choice for this distinguished honor."

The National Assembly of State Arts Agencies is a not-for-profit that serves and represents America's 56 state and jurisdictional arts councils. Founded in 1968, NASAA is dedicated to advancing and promoting a meaningful role for the arts in the lives of individuals, families and communities throughout the U.S.



Jonathan Katz, NASAA Chief Executive Officer, and David



Jonathan, David, his father, Wayne Trottier Sr., and his brother, Dr. Wayne Trottier Jr.

NDCA to Host Statewide Conference on Careers in the Arts for People with Disabilities

The North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA), together with Dakota West Arts Council (DWAC, a VSA arts affiliate), and the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities (NDCPD, a University Center of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities), has been conducting regional forums throughout North Dakota designed to identify educational needs and barriers that have, or may prevent, individuals with disabilities from pursuing a career in the arts.

The feedback gained from the regional forums will enable us to develop effective strategies for promoting career opportunities for individuals with disabilities. These strategies will be presented at a statewide conference in Bismarck on April 7, 2008, at the Kelly Inn Hotel from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (registration opens at 9 a.m.). The key note speaker will be Craig Dunn, Executive Director of VSA arts of Minnesota. During the conference the North Dakota VSA affiliate, DWAC, will host a VSA Art Venture art show, and a participant art show where all conference attendees will be invited to display sample work; and their will be performances by two artists with disabilities.

Who Should Attend: Individuals with disabilities who are interested in pursuing careers as artists or arts administrators (and family and friends); and any one currently working as an artist or arts administrator.

Pre-registration is requested. Registration fee for the conference is \$25 (includes lunch). Registration fee and travel assistance may be available to individuals interested in attending, but who are unable due to financial restraints. To register, call Amy Schmidt at (701) 328-7594, or email amschmid@nd.gov.

Two final regional forums will take place on January 8, 2008, in Minot at the MSU Campus Library; and on February 20, 2008, in Fargo at the Plains Art Museum. Attendance is free and open to the public. If interested in attending, please call (701) 328-7594.

To request special accommodations (sign language interpretation, or other auxiliary aids) call Dawn Olson at (800) 233-1737 at least 5 days in advance.

This project is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Social Security Administration, and the National Arts and Disability Center at the University of California Los Angeles.

Artspace Artist Survey Available

If you, or someone you know, would like to be a part of Minot's own Artspace, the survey is now available!

See Page 14 for details...

Prairie Arts newsletter is a publication of the North Dakota Council on the Arts and is published three times per year.

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The North Dakota Council on the Arts is the state agency responsible for the support and development of the arts throughout North Dakota, and is funded by the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts.



Resolutions for 2008

by Jan Webb, Executive Director, North Dakota Council on the Arts

It's that time of year again...time for making those pesky New Year's resolutions! I've been clearing off my bookshelves and trying to put things in order before I start gathering another year's worth of reading and paperwork. With each shelf I attack I find an article, pamphlet, or book that I had good intentions of reading. So, my 2008 Resolution Number One is to read (and digest) at least one interesting publication every week and at least one good article each day.

Resolution Number Two is to make the time twice a month for NDCA staff conversations. It seems we are all so busy, like many of you in the field, that we barely have time to visit about our programs, progress, or problems. It's important that we listen to one another and help each other filter through all the complexities of maintaining strong programs.

Resolution Number Three is a bit harder, and we'll be asking for your help. As an agency we want to make sure that North Dakotans all over the state hear about and understand the results of the statewide economic impact study that was completed this past year. We need to visit with people outside the arts field and help them understand the monetary and life-enhancing value of arts education, of artists and their work, and of the organizations that support and feature cultural programs and artistic works. Please let us know of any opportunities to share the results of this study by putting us in touch with your local community groups or, if you would like to present to these groups yourself, let us assist you with a Power Point presentation, copies of the Impact Study, and some ideas on what to say.

Here's to the year 2008 and all the great possibilities awaiting us as we work together to promote and share the story of the arts in North Dakota!

Road Trip: North Dakota Arts and Public Value

by Carlo Cuesta



Being in a car all day going from meeting to meeting can be very exhausting. This was what I was thinking when Jan Webb and I pulled into Bowman. We had started to travel the state at 7:00 am that day. Drove up to Minot from Bismarck, then west to New Town, then to Watford City, and then onto Bowman. We arrived for our meeting with a group of the community's arts leaders at 7:00 pm and I must admit I was not looking forward to another two-hour conversation.

We were doing this traveling in preparation for the Council's strategic planning process and were conducting listening sessions with artists, arts organizations, and community leaders. Though we were tired, we were quickly rejuvenated when we walked into Bowman's new library/arts center. The brain child of artist Sarah Snavelly and facilitated by a small group of citizens, the library/arts center was a warm cozy space that welcomed you in to explore both books and art together. What was most important was how this project came together - how Sarah and the community saw multiple needs and creatively synthesized them into a cohesive vision that ultimately made the community stronger.

This project is a good example of four things that happen to a city or town when the arts are present:

- 1) Engaging points of interest are created that draws both citizens and visitors.
- 2) Diverse leadership comes together - artists, bankers, local government, etc. - and create something new.
- 3) The city or town's identity is transformed by the notion of having this new creative point of interest.
- 4) Economic development occurs because citizens stay in the community as well as visitors are attracted to the area.

All of this was on display at 7:00 pm that evening. Bowman was one of many places in North Dakota where we saw the arts creating enormous public value. Citizen engagement with the arts is more than entertainment, or a fun activity for the whole family, in some areas it is an in-depth part of K-12 academic success, or it is about economic development. For a lone folk artist living on the prairie it may be a life's work, but for the state as a whole it is about the growth and preservation of North Dakota's heritage and unique identity.

You may need to take a long car trip to see all of these things, but it is worth it.

Commemorative Quarter Sets

Limited quantities of the Commemorative State Quarter Sets are still available through NDCA - but hurry, this opportunity to purchase never-circulated North Dakota quarters in a collectible case for \$5.00 won't last much longer. Each set includes one quarter from the United States Mint at Denver, and one quarter from the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

The size of the North Dakota Commemorative State Quarter set is approximately 3 1/2" x 2 1/2" and includes a plastic display case. Proceeds from the sale of the Commemorative State Quarter Sets will benefit the North Dakota Cultural Endowment Fund. To place an order, or for more information, call (701) 328-7590, or visit www.nd.gov/arts.



Sign Up Today!

The NDCA has an electronic newsletter that supplements the *Prairie Arts* newsletter (which is published 3 times per year). *e-Prairie Arts* is distributed via email during the months of February, March, April, June, July, August, October, November and December. Each edition contains statewide and national news items, opportunities for artists & arts administrators, calendar information, links to informative and helpful web sites, and much more.

If you would like to receive electronic editions of *e-Prairie Arts*, please send an email to amschmid@nd.gov or call (701) 328-7594 to add your name to the distribution list.

I hope you enjoy this edition of *Prairie Arts*!

Photographer Robb Siverson's Work Currently Featured in the Offices of the Governor and the First Lady



Robb Siverson

Robb Siverson was born in Grand Forks, North Dakota in the winter of 1977. It wasn't until college twenty years later when he discovered the medium of photography. In 2004 he graduated from Minnesota State

University Moorhead with a Bachelor of Arts degree in

Photography. He started studying the Art with an inexpensive 35mm outfit and has grown to favor strictly large and medium format cameras. Although the digital age is increasing in popularity, Robb still prefers black and white silver halide processes; methods that are slowly becoming extinct.



"Approaching Storm"



"Fargo City Limits"

subject matter; some left alone showing the true beauty of black and white tones and some manipulated with chemistry in a technique known as bromide staining. Robb processes and hand prints all of his photographs in his traditional wet

lab darkroom studio. Robb currently lives in Fargo, North Dakota.



"Little Missouri Grasslands"



"Sunday Afternoon"

Robb was recently featured in the January issue of *Art Calendar Magazine*, to read the article, visit www.artcalendar.com. For more information on Robb, or to inquire about purchasing or commissioning work, contact Robb Siverson Photography, 3709 10th Street North, Fargo, ND, 58102; call (218) 329-2574; or visit: www.robbsiverson.com.

Jamestown Fine Arts Association Recipient of NEA BIG READ Grant

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) announced that it will award grants totaling \$1,598,800 to 127 libraries, municipalities, and arts, culture, higher education, and science organizations to host Big Read celebrations of 16 classic novels from January-June 2008. North Dakota's Big Read grant recipient is the Jamestown Fine Arts Association. The book chosen for the program is "A Farewell to Arms." To learn how you can become involved in Jamestown's Big Read program, contact The Arts Center at (701) 251-2496; email: artscenter@csicable.net; or visit www.jamestownartscenter.org.

Statewide Poetry Out Loud Competition is February 26, 2008!

The National Endowment for the Arts, and the Poetry Foundation, have once again partnered with state agencies to bring *Poetry Out Loud* to high schools across America. The North Dakota State Finals will be held at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck on February 26, 2008. This event is free and open to the public. A special feature at this year's competition is an open "Coffee House" from 1:00-2:30 p.m. The winner of the state finals will advance to the National Finals, in Washington, DC, on April 27-29, 2008.

To learn more about Poetry Out Loud, contact the North Dakota Council on the Arts, 1600 E Century Ave, Ste 6, Bismarck, ND 58503; call (701) 328-7593; or email: lehreth@nd.gov.

Mark Your Calendars for May 28-29, 2008 to Attend Artist to Artist

What: Artist to Artist is a powerful professional development experience for artists who are on the North Dakota Council on the Arts Artist in Residence roster, teaching artists, and classroom teachers.

When: Wednesday, May 28 and Thursday, May 29, 2008

Where: Fargo, North Dakota

Why: Artist to Artist is grounded on the principle that authentic learning in the arts is the foundation for understanding and creating meaningful arts integration in the classroom.

How: Artist to Artist uses the power of collaborative inquiry to examine the work that artists do in order to develop deeper understandings of artists' planning, instruction, and reflection strategies. Experienced facilitators guide Artist to Artist participants in ways that allow them to share teaching and learning practices with each other, to discover mentoring and partnering opportunities with other teaching artists, and to build bridges to arts organizations and schools.

Who: Founded in 2002, Artist to Artist is a cadre of exemplary teaching artists, "translators," facilitators and emerging teaching artists. It is an informal collective of individuals from across the states of Minnesota and North Dakota that is actively supported by the Perpich Center for Arts Education, the North Dakota Council on the Arts, and the Minnesota State Arts Board. Additional sponsors for this year's Artist to Artist are Fargo-Moorhead Community Theatre, Northern Prairie Performing Arts, NDSU School of Visual Arts & Architecture, and the Hotel Donaldson.

More information will be coming to you in February!

To learn more about Artist to Artist, or to register for the workshop, contact Linda Ehreth at (701) 328-7593 or lehreth@nd.gov.

2008 Summer Teachers' Institute Keepers of the Land

The North Dakota Teacher Resource Coalition announces their 2008 Summer Teachers' Institute, *Keepers of the Land*. The institute will be held at the Turtle Mountain Outdoor Learning Center, Lake Metigoshe State Park, June 16-18, 2008. Nationally recognized storyteller Michael Caduto, author of the "Keepers of the Earth" books will be one of the institute presenters. Caduto will do an afternoon workshop of stories, activities and stewardship ideas that are focused on trees and other plants. For an entertaining evening program he will present an inspiring program of stories, music and a group circle dance.

More information about the workshop registration, lodging facilities, and additional workshop presentations will be posted in February on the EduTech web site at www.edutech.nodak.edu.

The North Dakota Council on the Arts partners with the North Dakota Teacher Resource Coalition to bring culture and history resources to the K-12 classroom. The primary goal of the Coalition is to provide professional development opportunities that enable educators to expand their content knowledge and provide resources for curriculum planning and development. The Coalition partners gather and coordinate activities and curriculum resources that provide enriched educational experiences for K12 teachers and students across North Dakota.

Significant partners in this project are organizations and agencies that provide valuable cultural and historical data and current information strategic to planning and maintaining the activities and resources: EduTech; North Dakota Forest Service; North Dakota Council on the Arts; State Historical Society of North Dakota; Knife River Indian Villages National Park Service; and the North Dakota Geographic Alliance.

Artist Marsha Lehmann’s Work will be Featured in the Offices of the Governor and the First Lady in April, May and June



Marsha Lehmann

Southwestern North Dakota artist Marsha Njos Lehmann now works in oil with a few images in pencil. Her paintings are primarily of ranch life, wildlife and the rugged terrain of the badlands and prairies where she and her husband, Rob, raise angus cattle.



“On the Job”



“Bringing in Old Glory”

Marsha has documented some changes in the rural lifestyle where she grew up and strives to capture the beauty of her favorite place on earth, the rugged sagebrush covered, blue green pastures and badlands.

The subjects in her paintings are from photos she has taken - of ranch life, working dogs with sheep and cattle, horses working and grazing on the prairie, the beauty of the livestock and wildlife together, the life of ranching and farming families,

men, women and children in their everyday working clothes at the county fair, rodeos, working, and just everyday life.



“Schmoozin’”

Many of her paintings capture a moment in time... a boot on the bumper of an old pickup "Discussing the Weather," a painting



“Small Adjustments”

filled with images of bucking horses at the oldest rodeo in North Dakota at Killdeer "The Spirit of the Mountain."

For more information on Marsha Lehmann, please visit www.marshalehmann.com. For questions about existing work, to purchase artwork or to schedule a show, please contact Marsha at Prairie Bleu Studio by calling (701) 440-0296; emailing prairiebleu@ndsupernet.com; or mail to: Marsha Lehmann, Prairie Bleu Studio, Bowman, ND 58623.

NDCA and Traditional Artist Mary Louise Defender Wilson Participate in Largest Worldwide Conference

Internet2 ("The Next Generation of Internet") Megaconference IX - "Breaking Down the Barriers: Global Connections," was billed as the largest worldwide videoconference. On Thursday, November 8, 2007, Troyd Geist, NDCA's Folklorist, gave a brief introduction to the work NDCA has done in enhanced CDs, blending modern technology to preserve and provide context to ancient traditions, then Mary Louise Defender Wilson told a traditional story titled "The Blue Heron Who Stayed for the Winter." This story is featured in the NDCA-produced enhanced CD "My Relatives Say." NDCA was invited to participate due to their work with modern technology to aid in the preservation of ancient traditions. NDCA's session was titled "North Dakota's Living Heritage."

The Megaconference is the world's largest videoconference - which takes place over advanced networks. This videoconference has grown every year - and now includes over 400 participating locations around the world. This years conference was linked to 212 universities worldwide in 33 countries including: the USA, Great Britain, Canada, Japan, India, Portugal, Egypt, Taiwan, China, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Hungary, etc. Also, last year the Megaconference won the first-ever "Internet2 Driving Exemplary Applications (IDEA) award" - so it has become a very big and important event.

The event has included a diversity of presenters over the years, ranging all the way from a singing quartet (each singer was in a different state but they sounded as if they were all in the same room), to a live demonstration of an electron microscope over the Internet, to a tour of the Holy Land via a cell phone camera, to a set of songs and dances from China, to a visit to the Paleozoological Museum of China." For more information, visit: www.megaconference.org.

Governor Hoeven & First Lady Mikey Hoeven Light the State Tree

Photos courtesy of Garry Redmann



Governor Hoeven & First Lady Mikey Hoeven

The Lighting of the North Dakota State Tree took place on Tuesday, November 27, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall at the State Capitol. Governor Hoeven and First Lady Mikey Hoeven conducted the ceremony.



Pastor Randy Upgren

Live entertainment was provided by Central Dakota Children's Choir, Bel Canto, under the direction of Terri Fay.

Pastor Randy Upgren of Charity Lutheran Church, read Luke 2:1-14. Governor and Mikey Hoeven, accompanied by Karen Traeholt, pianist, led the audience in singing "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and "Oh, Come All Ye Faithful."

It was standing room only at the ceremony, everyone was thrilled when the lights in the Memorial Hall dimmed and they lit up the



Central Dakota Children's Choir, Bel Canto Choral Director, Terri Fay & Pianist, Karen Traeholt

state tree! LT COL J.P. Moser of the National Guard Engineer Brigade, 34th ID FWD, was honored by Governor and Mrs. Hoeven. He, along with his wife and other family members of the National Guard Engineer Brigade, 34th ID FWD, Family

Readiness Group were recognized. Miss Rodeo North Dakota 2008, Lindy Ellis, was also in attendance. After the ceremony everyone walked around the tree to look at all of the new and previously donated ornaments, took pictures with family and friends, and enjoyed cookies and apple cider.

There were 186 new ornaments donated to the tree this year. The tree is decorated with ornaments handmade by children, students, artists and craftspeople from all over North Dakota, as has been the tradition since 1981. A program with descriptive listings of the ornaments donated in 2007 was handed out at the ceremony.



The Lighting of the State Tree



Miss Rodeo North Dakota 2008, Lindy Ellis, Governor Hoeven and Mikey Hoeven



LT COL J.P. Moser, his wife, and other family members of the National Guard Engineer Brigade, 34th ID FWD

Artist Barton Lidice Benes Will Give Contents of His New York Apartment to NDMOA



Actor Larry Hagman, star of television's "I Dream of Jeannie" and "Dallas," was at the North Dakota Museum of Art on Saturday, October 20, to entertain and celebrate a major gift to North Dakota. The artist Barton Lidice Benes is giving the contents of his New York apartment to the Museum, which includes over \$1 million in African, Egyptian, and contemporary art, plus much more as touted in the New York Times when it announced Barton's gift to North Dakota (2/6/05). When Benes gives up the apartment, the Museum will dismantle the collection and reassemble it as the Museum's first period room: a Twenty-First Century Artist's Studio.



Barton Lidice Benes

Benes' friend Hagman, kicked-off the fund drive for the acquisition and presented his hour-long comedy monolog, A Night with Larry Hagman, which was an amazing evening of heartwarming and hilarious storytelling by one of the world's legendary actors. He shared anecdotes of his life and career as the son of a famous actress, the discovery of a "Jeannie" in a bottle, and who shot J.R., a puzzle that 350 million Dallas fans worldwide wanted to solve.

This event grew out of Benes' long-term friendship with Laurel Reuter, which resulted in plans for the acquisition of the apartment collection. Larry Hagman and his wife Maj came to know Barton through Hagman's mother, the actress Mary Martin.

Reuter and Benes were introduced in 1987 by Harvey Hoshour, the architect who planned the original design for the renovation of the "Old Women's Gym" on the campus of the University of North Dakota into the home of the North Dakota Museum of Art. Hoshour died before the renovation was complete so Reuter turned to artists to complete the building. Barton Benes designed the Museum Shop and later the Museum's Donor Wall. The new building opened in 1989 with a survey exhibition of Benes' art.

Other exhibitions followed in 1995 and 2004. In 1997 the Museum commissioned Benes to create a "flood museum" comprised of metaphor-laden, flood damaged objects contributed by the people of Grand Forks. The work, twenty-four-feet long and five-feet high, is divided into eighty pigeonholes, each containing a reliquary object such as the "favorite toy of flood kitten Iris who drowned but not before moving several kittens to safety in a vent."

The Museum's goal is to raise \$2 million to fund the project to dismantle Benes' apartment in New York and recreate it in North Dakota in a reconfigured Museum space. The second million is to build an endowment for exhibitions and programming.

Larry and Maj Hagman are leaving their collection of art made by Barton Benes to the Museum-and it is a significant collection. For more information, call the Museum at (701) 777-4195, or visit www.ndmoa.com.

New Rockford and Surrounding Communities Participate in the Big Read

The Big Read encourages literary reading by asking communities to come together to read and discuss one book. The Dakota Prairie Regional Center for the Arts (DPRCA) was awarded a grant and selected the book, "Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury. These books were distributed to eight area communities by local firemen at "Burnout Barbeques." The eight communities that participated in the reading and book discussions were New Rockford, Carrington, Harvey, Fesseden, Maddock, Minnewaukan, Fort Totten and Sheyenne. Deb Belquist, director of DPRCA said, "It has been very interesting having students and adults all reading the same book. We have had some very engaged book discussions and people in all of the participating communities are enjoying all the events associated with the National Endowment for the Art's The Big Read program."

The "Light the Fire Kick-off" event took place on September 11, 2007 in New Rockford, with over 800 people in attendance. The key-note speaker was Corey Seymour, a graduate of New Rockford High School, who is currently a journalist and senior editor of "Men's Vogue," and has contributed to other magazines including "Rolling Stone Magazine," "Runner's World," and "Men's Journal." Seymour also co-authored a book titled "Gonzo: The Life of Hunter S. Thompson" with Rolling Stone founder and editor, Jann S. Wenner.



Gooseberry Park Players - North Dakota Arts in Education Documentation Project Spotlight

The purpose of the Arts in North Dakota Documentation Project, conducted by members of the Arts Education Task Force, was to collect stories about successful arts programs in their communities. Stories were collected about individuals, community programs, school programs, regional programs, or any program that the task force members chose to identify. In each edition of the *Prairie Arts* newsletter, NDCA will spotlight one of the documentation project reports.

In this edition, NDCA is spotlighting Gooseberry Park Players located in Moorhead, MN. Gooseberry reaches kids 11-18 years of age in seven different cities, from eleven different schools in Minnesota and North Dakota. Fargo, West Fargo, Harwood, and Kindred are the North Dakota cities represented. Gooseberry is an eight week summer youth program aimed at family audiences. The program is offered at no charge to the students. The players are immersed in producing a show from beginning to end. The production, usually a musical, is a work based on youth literature, either commercially written or commissioned. At the time of this documentation project, Gooseberry produced "Snow Bear," an original work (play and music). Preparations began in January - finding materials, gathering financial support, and hiring staff. In April the information went out to the students, and auditions were held in May. Rehearsals ran through June, and the performance took place in July.

The vision for the program is to have "no child left behind in the arts." Gooseberry provides students an experience in the arts that is not available in school, that being expanded artistic expression and vision because they are immersed in every aspect of the production - on stage and back stage. And it still allows time for students to have a summer with family and all of their other activities. The program requires parents to work side-by-side with the kids in various production areas. With participants starting at age 11, and going up to 18, with parents being involved there is a multi-generational aspect to the program. The students see how the arts work in the community; and all students receive instruction from every artist or specialist on staff. This program takes kids who might be overlooked in other programs. Auditions focus on desire, willingness, commitment, and ability. Thirty to forty percent of the cast is new each year. The experience the youth receive has proven very helpful when making that transition into Junior High. Student's confidence has grown, and they make new friends easily. For more information call (218) 299-3728; or visit www.gooseberryparkplayers.org.

Johnson Named NCAC Art Supporter of the Year

Helga Johnson of McVile was named as the Art Supporter of the Year during the annual Nelson County Arts Council's Volunteer Recognition "Oktoberfest" held on October 21 in Pekin. The event also recognized 133 volunteers that had donated work hours, artistic performances, artwork, goods and services in 2007 that totaled \$17,000 in value.



Debra Hensrud, President, NCAC Board of Directors, and Helga Johnson

Johnson is most widely recognized as the manager of the Stump Lake Park or as the food service manager at Dakota Prairie Elementary. However her involvement in the arts has been very visible through her involvement with the Arts Council's Annual Pork Dinner, the One-Act Dinner Theater, and most notably the Stump Lake Fine Arts Youth Camp.

The Fine Arts Youth Camp became a reality after a casual conversation about how to involve the youth of the county in some sort of activity for the summer. After discussing a variety of ways to involve students in the arts the possibility of using Stump Lake Park and its pavilion for an arts camp was brought up. Helga said, "It's here. Let's use it." In the past nine years, over 700 young artists have "used it".

Through her donation of waived usage fees and the donation of her time to prepare low-cost lunches for the students, Helga has given an invaluable arts opportunity to students not only within Nelson County, but also to other students from several areas of the state. She has enabled the NCAC to maintain a low cost registration fee that is below average, which allows nearly any interested student to attend the camp. She is a strong vocal advocate for and donor to the Stump Lake Fine Arts Youth Camp's scholarship fund.

Helga will no longer be managing the Stump Lake Park. We would like to thank her for all she's done to support the camp and keep it there at the Park. Although she will miss being at "Camp", Johnson says she plans on continuing her involvement with the NCAC.

North Dakota Artists to Explore Wholesale Market - ART UP! Participating Artists Selected



The Red River Regional Council, North Dakota Small Business Development Center, and the North Valley Arts Council are pleased to announce the artists that will participate in Art Up!, a new initiative to help artists diversify their customer base and achieve a more stable revenue stream through the wholesale market. These artists were selected through a competitive application process, and will participate in a sponsored booth at the Buyers Market of American Craft (BMAC) and the BMAC Visiting Artist Program.

Artists selected to participate in the sponsored booth at the BMAC and the BMAC Visiting Artist Program include:

- Janet Jacobson & Diane Schill - North Dakota Wooly Girls, Wales
- Alfred Jason Lindell - Sun Dog Glass Design, Park River
- Elisabeth Schwankl - Artrends Gallery, Fargo
- Dyan Rey - Dyan Rey Studio, Grand Forks
- Susanne Williams - Willi Nilli, Fargo
- Tara Argal & Karman Rheault - Blurred Visions, Fargo
- Paul Ide, Fargo
- Ellen Dietrich - Givinity Press, Fargo
- Amy Uthus, Williston

Artists selected to participate in the BMAC Visiting Artist Program include:

- Kaye Canfield - KDC Mohair Designs, Manvel
- Jackie Uthus - Jackie's Art, Grand Forks
- Eric Johnson - EAJ Arts, Fingal
- Meg Spielman Peldo - Spielman Studio, Fargo

BMAC is the world's largest wholesale market for handmade crafts and will be held in February 2008 in Philadelphia, PA. There are over 7,000 buyers in attendance. The Visiting Artist Program provides training on basics of the wholesale market, including creating and developing a wholesale line, relationships with galleries, salesmanship, and much more. For more information, visit www.americancraft.com/bmac.

"We are very pleased that we can help the selected artists enter the wholesale market through Art Up!," stated Dawn Keeley, Business Development Director of the Red River Regional Council, a partner in the project. "We believe that Art Up! will help artists and artisan businesses across the state find new ways to increase sales and reach new customers while living and working in North Dakota, and that this increase in sales will have a positive impact on the state's economy."

The sponsored booth will be on view at the Marketplace of Ideas in Grand Forks on January 15 & 16, 2008. Trainings for artists of any media will also be offered at Marketplace. Visit www.marketplaceofideas.org for more information.

Sponsors for Art Up! include the ND Small Business Development Center, North Valley Arts Council, North Dakota Council on the Arts, North Dakota Department of Commerce, North Dakota Department of Agriculture - Pride of Dakota and Marketplace of Ideas.

For more information, contact Dawn Keeley, Business Development Director, North Dakota Small Business Development Center at (701) 352-3550 or at dkeeley@nd.gov.

Plains Art Museum Opens Goldberg Art Lounge

The Plains Art Museum recently transformed the Goldberg Reference Library into a hands-on learning space, the Anne and Max Goldberg Art Lounge. Located on the second floor of the Museum, the Art Lounge is a place where visitors can explore the concepts and creations of contemporary art in a relaxed and comfortable environment. By indulging their imaginations, visitors can experiment, problem solve and learn about art through art-production, games, books and DVDs. Themed "ArtBins" guide visitors through their hands-on exploration.

Sandra Ben-Haim, award-winning curator of education at the Museum said, "The prime mission of museums is education. Research demonstrates that multi-sensory, challenging, creative and fun learning experiences are far more effective than the tedious drilling and grilling of facts and figures." For more information, visit www.plainsart.org.

"Musical Inc!" A 25 Year Review

Entertainment, Inc! was originally founded as a choral music performing group that quickly embraced theatre with the 1982 production of "Brigadoon." For a number of years, all productions featured musical performance.

In 1985, "Plaza Suite" marked the first non-musical production. At one time, Entertainment, Inc! was comprised of three groups of singers, dancers, and actors--each with representation on the board of directors. Eventually, these groups combined to form a community theatre organization with a "music-heavy season."

On May 9-11, 2008, "Musical Inc!" (*directed by B. Michael Quale*) will reflect on the musical memories of the past 25 years. Some of the fondest moments in Entertainment, Inc!'s history will be recalled and recreated. Past and present performers are welcomed back to take the stage at the Williston High School auditorium for a thrilling musical salute.

Special reunion events are being planned for the performance weekend. Volunteers and suggestions are encouraged by calling (701) 577-3179 or sending email to info@entertainmentinc.org. *Note:* A sponsorship is available for this production. If interested in sponsoring, please visit www.entertainmentinc.org, click on "About Us" and complete the Sponsorship Agreement, please mail the completed agreement along with payment to reserve the production. Thanks for your support!

The “Commod Squad”

by Laura Youngbird



arriving, while still in the lobby of the hotel, the film festival coordinator walked in, recognized us and immediately said "It's the Commod Squad!"

The Heard Museum was fantastic and everything was beautiful in Phoenix. The receptions were wonderful and we had a great time. I was wondering to myself if the girls were enjoying the trip as much as I was when one of them said "I'm going to remember this for the rest of my life!" All of the movies were amazing!



Circle of Nations School received an Artist in Residence grant last year from the North Dakota Council on the Arts to bring in rostered video artist Mike Hazard (also known as Media Mike). The movie making activity now know as “Commod Squad” was integrated with Native American culture, Science, Health, Social Studies, Math, and Language Arts instruction.

During his residency Mike provided an in-service for staff on digital video, iMovie editing and how to utilize it in the curriculum. He collaborated with Pam Lino Mills from the NDSU Extension Office and CNS staff to develop



an educational video on the risks of diabetes within the Native American community. Under the direction of Media Mike a core group of students were responsible for the writing, editing and production of the finished piece. Activities included developing a plan, making a time line, constructing a story board, developing ideas, writing script, creating props, etc. All students participated in filming, in-camera editing, participated as actors, characters or provided raw talent. And a special thanks to the video artist, Deb Wallwork, whose editing skills contributed mightily to the making of this program. Copies of the completed video will be sent to all Native American Schools in ND. The Center for International Education has also given the DVD away for free to about fifty different schools and Indian health organizations from coast to coast.

Comments from the artist, Mike Hazard (aka Media Mike):
What I love about working as an artist in residence at Circle of Nations School is we always balance contrasts as we create our videos. Young students and elders, playful games and serious subjects. The dramatic mix sparks intense and delightful creative energies.

As a person with Type Two Diabetes myself, this particular project was especially profound. And sharing our work with ever-widening circles--from the students and staff at CNS in the video to the cable audience in Wahpeton to the various schools and public health organizations around the country who have requested the DVD--gives us all a sense of empowerment, a feeling we are making a difference, and a deep connection to the larger community.

I'm grateful to the Council for its support.
Yours truly, Media Mike



The Fund for Folk Culture Awards Grants to 26 Artists Nationally, Including One North Dakota Artist

The Fund for Folk Culture awarded grants to 26 traditional artists throughout the United States in the third round of its Artists Support Program. The funding program, underwritten by The Ford Foundation with additional support from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and The San Francisco Foundation, provides grant support to individual folk and traditional artists to pursue opportunities that will help them grow artistically and professionally, to better connect with their cultural communities or to develop new audiences for their work.

Artists from 14 states, representing over 12 nationalities and a diverse array of visual and performing arts traditions, were selected from a pool of over 75 applicants in 2007.

Among this year's recipients are Skokomish wood carver Pete Peterson, Peruvian-born retablo maker Jeronimo Lozano, African American Quilter Geraldine Nash, Cajun fiddler David Greeley, and Filipino kulintang master and National Heritage Fellow Danongan Kalanduyan.

"This year we expanded what had been a regional award program to a national award program," noted Fund for Folk Culture Executive Director Betsy Peterson. "The artistic quality among the applicants was extremely high and the competition

fierce, but we are pleased to be supporting these 26 extraordinary artists." Peterson continued, "The grants, though small, are able to meet a range of artistic needs in a timely fashion, making it possible for one artist to build a new workshop, for others to buy computers and other equipment upgrades. One artist will travel to Brazil, another to India. Several will produce CDs, books and develop marketing materials."

North Dakota Recipient:
Norik Astvatsaturov, Wahpeton - \$4,750

Support for Azerbaijan-born artist Norik Ashvatsaturov to create three repoussé pieces in the Armenian metallurgy tradition: a decorative Byzantine style brass icon inlaid with semi-precious stones; a decorative German silver jewel box inlaid with semi-precious stones; and a piece rendered in copper depicting an Armenian legend.

With related support, the artist will develop email distribution and a website to display his work. Both activities will help further the growth of the artist and strengthen his relationships and communication with Armenian communities throughout the United States.

For more information on The Fund for Folk Culture, visit www.folkculture.org.

Students Perform Chamber Music

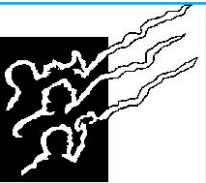
The VCSU Community School of the Arts held its annual Chamber Music Festival on Saturday, November 17th at VCSU's Foss Hall. An evening concert included performances by professional string players as well as area string students. The first half of the program consisted of performances by Community School students with members of the Luminus Piano Trio, a professional piano trio from Minot, North Dakota. The second half of the program was presented by the Luminus Piano Trio, and included works by Beethoven, Ratner, and Mulliken. Members of Luminus are Dianna Anderson, piano; Laura Prokopyk, violin; and Julianne Boren, cello.

The Chamber Music Festival was made possible through the generosity of Amateur Chamber Music Players and the Clinton B. Ford Fund of its ACMP Foundation, an organization that promotes chamber music activities for amateur musicians. This was the third year that the VCSU Community School of the Arts received a grant from ACMP in support of its chamber music program.

Teachers contributing students to the program included piano teachers Dr. Sara Hagen, Dr. Sarah Kahl, and Beth Klingenstein, and string teacher Kimberly Hutchens.

This was the eleventh year that students from Valley City performed chamber works in concert with professional musicians. In the past, VCSU Community School of the Arts students have performed with such notable chamber groups as the Chiara String Quartet, the Kennedy String Quartet (members of the National Symphony), and the Concordia Duo. The program not only gives local students the chance to experience chamber music, but also the opportunity to perform with excellent professional musicians.

Dakota Medical Foundation Awards Grant to Trollwood



FutureBuilders in support of Trollwood Performing Arts School received a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from Dakota Medical Foundation to support contract fundraising consultant services to strengthen Trollwood's sustainability outlook. The award covers an intensive non-profit fundraising training program for several of the organization's representatives through the Impact Foundation for Innovation and Effectiveness (Impact Institute), and includes access for 12 months to a professional fundraising consultant.

Trollwood Performing Arts School provides high-quality arts educational experiences and performance opportunities to youth in grades one through 12, through eight annual programs. Trollwood's programs use the arts as a tool to teach goal setting, positive personal expression and the development of fundamental life skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, self-confidence, communication skills, and teamwork. For more information on Trollwood Performing Arts School, visit www.trollwood.org.

Mountain-Plains Museum Association Presents Award to Plains Art Museum

Rolling Plains Art Gallery is the winner of the Mountain Plains Museum Association's EdCom Award for Excellence in Programming. The award was presented to the Plains Art Museum's Curator of Outreach, Pam Jacobson, at its annual conference, held in Fargo in September. In addition to winning this regional award, Rolling Plains will be nominated for the national EdCom award next spring at the American Association of Museums Conference.

Rolling Plains is Plains Art Museum's signature educational outreach program. An exhibition space on wheels, it is an 8-foot by 48-foot semi-trailer converted to a climate-controlled, accessible art gallery. Providing rural access to art exhibitions and educational programs, Rolling Plains visits approximately 32 Minnesota and North Dakota communities in alternating years. The program toured Minnesota in 2006/07 and is currently touring North Dakota with the exhibition *Creative Tradition - Living Culture*.

Jacobson travels with the trailer and provides educational programming and interpretive tours in conjunction with the artwork on display. An artist-in-residence program, involving artists featured in the Rolling Plains exhibitions, was employed from 2000 through 2006.

Kathrine Walker Schlageck of MPMA's EdCom presented the award to Jacobson. Walker Schlageck said that North Dakota has been a winner two years in a row. EdCom is the Education Committee for MPMA and serves a professional resource for museum educators within the MPMA region.

8th Annual Fargo Film Festival

The 8th Annual Fargo Film Festival will take place March 5-8, 2008. The Fargo Film Festival is the premier film festival event in the state of North Dakota. The festival takes place at a variety of locations in the Fargo-Moorhead community. The Fargo Theatre is the festival's home base and provides the venue for the majority of screenings.

The Fargo Film Festival strives to provide an extraordinary opportunity for filmmakers' work to be shown on the big silver screen in a beautifully restored, state of the art, 870-seat Art Deco Theatre; provide informational and provocative presentations and panel discussions on issues affecting local, regional, national and international filmmaking and filmmakers; and jury films in categories including Animation/Experimental, Documentary Feature, Documentary Short, Music Video, Narrative Feature, Narrative Short, Native American Voices, and Student.

For more information, visit www.fargofilmfestival.org, or you can call the Fargo Theatre at (701) 239-8385.

NDCA Grant Recipient, Elizabeth Pickett, Attends National Orff Schulwerk Convention in San Jose, CA

By Elizabeth Pickett, Music Teacher at Will-Moore Elementary, Bismarck, ND

As the fall semester progresses teachers tend to get into a slump and when everyone turns back their clocks and there is less sunlight to live on, spirits start to dwindle. But not for those that attended the National Orff Schulwerk Convention in San Jose, CA - especially when the theme is "The Art of Play."

From eight in the morning until the Convention Center closed at ten at night, over 2,000 music educators were singing, dancing, moving, and playing. What a wonderful experience for a young educator to be a part of not only to learn new ideas and lessons, but to collaborate with other educators and performers to see various lessons, which have worked in other classrooms not only in the United States, but from around the world.

The benefit this year of was the location! November in California is always nice but compared to North Dakota weather; however, the cultural experience that I was a part of is hard for me to describe. Japanese Taiko drumming, Chinese Dragon dances, Gamelan ensembles from Bally, three different sections of African dancing that represented Tanzania, Ghana, and West Africa, and Latin American songs and dances were some of the highlights that I had in my three day convention.

During the National Orff Schulwerk Convention I was able to attend 12 sessions that focused on different aspects of the Orff Schulwerk approach such as singing, saying, dancing, and playing. From integrating classroom literacy to the music classroom, to physical coordination skills, there were many different lessons and ideas that I plan to add to my general music classroom. My first day was wonderful - learning about the holistic approach to Ghanaian music. An overall theme of the conference was the fact that children, as well as adults need to look at the bigger picture when it comes to making music. So often people overlook the beauty of the whole process when learning music, and as educators we tend to be focused on the end product and forget to realize that the best part of teaching is working to get to that endpoint.

I was extremely fortunate to be able to attend many of the big name clinicians. J.S. Kofi

Gbolonyo originally from Ghana and teaches in Pennsylvania; Keith Terry, a professional body percussionist from the Bay area; and Jim Solomon, a percussionist and educator.

Terry's sessions were extremely interesting because it was the only room in the San Jose convention center that did not have instruments in it - we relied totally on our own bodies. He introduced body percussion and then took it to that exploratory stage in order to create a musical piece. I did not think I would be that coordinated but by they end of a 90-minute session I was amazed at how fast my hands could go. Jim Owen's session on "percussion-theater" was an absolute favorite - I don't think I have ever sweat that much playing drums in my life. Simple drums made out of 5 gallon buckets, a bungee cord and a storage grate have never sounded so good!

One of the biggest challenges that I have faced in my two full years of teaching is that my students need to move. Classrooms can be so restricted to movement that they really are not given the freedom to play and move. I have seen a major improvement at the beginning of the my third year of teaching in the level of skill my students possess, I do not solely credit that to my method of teaching; however I will give credit to the Orff approach of teaching music. I consistently see that spark in students when they walk through my door or when I see them in the hall trying to figure out what I was doing in class the hour before. Orff works! It teaches and inspires children to be involved in music through the things that they do best . . . PLAY!

The overall effects of attending this convention were really too many to list; however, I can say that it was once again one of the most inspiring weekends of my life. I was not disappointed with any of the presenters that I went to, seeing many new ideas and activities that my students and I will not only have fun doing, but also be able to show the importance and creativity that general music can have in the school system. This convention has given me so many useful physical tools and ideas to use in my classroom. More importantly it has inspired me as a musician, and as a teacher, and has reminded me of why I became a music educator in the first place.

Xcel Energy awards MACA \$1,200

Xcel Energy Foundation awarded the Minot Area Council of the Arts \$1,200! These grant funds are designated for use in support of the free summer concert series, *Arts in the Parks*. “We are thrilled to have the opportunity to build this wonderful concert series that has become a favorite for all ages” said Terri Aldrich, Executive Director of the Minot Area Council of the Arts. She added that total attendance for the series has increased 129% since 2000. Xcel representative Kathy Aas presented the check to Aldrich. Kathy stated that Xcel was pleased to support MACA's Arts in the Parks program as it fits perfectly within the Xcel Foundation's Arts and Culture Grant objective of supporting organizations whose programming provides concerts, performances and exhibits that are free to the public and excite/engage the public in arts and cultural events.

Planning has already begun for the 2008 concert season. The 9-week season will kick off June 8, 2008 with the Minot City Band and conclude August 7th with audience favorite “At the Hop” featuring the TrebleMakers. Concerts will be scheduled every Thursday evening and every Sunday afternoon and evening with some select Tuesday evening concerts to be added. For more information contact Terri at (701) 852-2787 or email info@minotarts.org.

Individual Artist Fellowships Available

The North Dakota Council on the Arts’ Dance, Theatre, and Traditional Arts Individual Artist Fellowship applications are now being accepted and must be submitted by February 15, 2008. Early submission is encouraged. All applications must be completed via NDCA's new online grant system. The guidelines and application are available at <http://northdakota.cgweb.org>.

The Individual Fellowship Program was established to recognize practicing artists residing in North Dakota with a monetary fellowship award. This program is designed to support professional artists with outstanding talent and ability to improve their artistic skills and enhance their career opportunities. Two fellowships of \$2,500 are awarded annually with different disciplines in each fiscal year. The North Dakota Council on the Arts reserves the right to not award either fellowship, based on the panel review. Guidelines for Visual Artists/ Craftspeople and Media Artists will be available in 2009, and the guidelines for Music and Literature will be available in 2010.

Nelson County Arts Council Receives Arts Grant



Debra Hensrud, Brenda Bjorlie, Karen Anderson, Sen. Joan Heckaman, Rep. Benjamin Vig

In support of their efforts to provide arts programming in their communities, Nelson County Arts Council applied for and was awarded

an Institutional Support grant by the North Dakota Council on the Arts. Karen Anderson of Warwick, a member of the NDCA Board of Directors, presented Debra Hensrud, president of the Board of Directors of the Nelson County Arts Council, and Executive Director, Brenda Bjorlie, with a check in the amount of \$8,015 during the Council's annual Volunteer Recognition event held in Pekin on October 21. Anderson said, "the Nelson County Arts Council is an arts organization that has proven it has strong management and leadership, quality artistic programming and services, and that it is an important part of the arts infrastructure in their communities." The check represents the first year's installment of a 3-year grant.

State Sen. Joan Heckaman and Rep. Ben Vig spoke to the audience following the presentation stating the importance of the arts as an educational, cultural and economic tool within North Dakota. Vig stated, "The Nelson County Arts Council in Pekin is an example of what a community can do for a positive impact in rural North Dakota and working in collaboration with the North Dakota Council on the Arts to help create a \$102 million economic impact in our state."

As an educator, Heckaman, talked about the NCAC's involvement with area schools. In regards to the present exhibition in Pekin, she said, "I would like to thank the Nelson County Arts Council for bringing in exhibits that are open to the area schools. These exhibits are opportunities for students to gain an appreciation for and an understanding of art by seeing actual pieces. They look forward to these viewing opportunities."

City of Pekin Awarded Federal Grant

The city of Pekin, ND, home to about 80 residents, was awarded a federal grant in the amount of \$106,400 to renovate the Pekin City Auditorium. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development grant was announced by North Dakota's congressional delegation, Sen. Kent Conrad, Sen. Byron Dorgan, and Rep. Earl Pomeroy. The Nelson County Arts Council, who leases the building from the city, plans to use the money to complete Phase 3 of a four-year building renovation project. Anticipated completion date of the final phase is June 2008.

"Once it's finished, we'll be able to use it year-round. We hope to have performing arts in the winter months, and we'll be able to use it for other city events," said Brenda Bjorlie, NCAC Executive Director, and Pekin's Community Development Director. This renovation will help NCAC expand the Annual Pekin Days Art Show, as well as the arts and horticultural workshops and conferences held in the auditorium. NCAC is attempting to raise \$35,000 in local matching funds for the Rural Development loan.

NEA Set for \$20 Million Increase as 2008 Spending Issues Near Resolution

by: Thomas L. Birch, Legislative Counsel, National Assembly of State Agencies, Legislative Alert, December 17, 2007, Vol. 02:08

As Congress moves to complete work on the fiscal year 2008 appropriations bills and adjourn for the year, legislators have fashioned a final omnibus spending measure--pending House and Senate floor action this week--which aims to meet the overall spending totals demanded by President Bush. The bill to be considered by the House Rules Committee for floor action Monday night or Tuesday, December 18, would fund the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) at \$144.707 million, a 16 percent increase of \$20.145 million over the 2007 funding level of \$124.562 million--the largest dollar boost in funding for the federal arts agency since 1979. Funds included for state and regional arts agencies at \$47.842 million represent an increase of \$7.7 million.

Until now, all efforts by the Congress to pass appropriations bills--except for the Defense Department spending measure already signed into law--have met with threats of a presidential veto. As the spending debate neared its conclusion, the Democratic leadership offered to meet the President halfway by cutting in half the \$22 billion in discretionary spending proposed by Congress above the President's total. When that offer was refused, the congressional appropriators relented and agreed to meet the President's overall budget total, while setting many of their own spending priorities within that amount. The funding for the National Endowment for the Arts is an example: the President's budget set the arts spending at \$128.4 million; the final spending level from Congress would increase the arts budget to \$144.7 million.

The omnibus bill also provides increased funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities, setting the spending total for the first time in many years equal to the NEA's appropriation. The humanities endowment has generally enjoyed funding slightly above that for the arts endowment.

In order to buy more time to work out the details of the final spending package, Congress passed a third continuing resolution on December 14 carrying spending at current levels until December 21. By then, the omnibus bill is expected to have passed the House and Senate and gone to the President for his signature.

NEA Announces Challenge America Grants

The National Endowment for the Arts announces grant awards totaling \$1,150,000 through the Challenge America: Reaching Every Community program. Bringing the arts to all Americans is a significant part of the NEA's mission. Challenge America: Reaching Every Community Fast Track Review is integral to that effort through its funding of projects that can have significant effects within their community because of the breadth of audiences and participants those projects include.

One hundred and fifteen grants of \$10,000 each will be given to primarily small and mid-sized organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations -- those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability. Many projects emphasize the potential of the arts to help strengthen communities. Projects often feature partnerships between arts organizations and other cultural, educational, or civic organizations.

NEA Deputy Chairman for Grants & Awards Tony Chauveaux said, "Bringing the arts to all Americans is a key component of the NEA's mission. Challenge America: Reaching Every Community is an integral part of the NEA's efforts to meet that goal, especially in serving those who, for reasons of geographic, economic, or mobility challenges, do not have many opportunities to experience the arts. Other elements of the program including the expedited review process are designed specifically for organizations in small to mid-sized communities."

North Dakota's grant recipient was the Fargo Moorhead Opera Company. Funds will support Dueling Divas, a concert featuring sopranos Cynthia Lawrence and Stella Zambalis. These nationally acclaimed vocalists will perform in Minnesota and North Dakota communities.

~ www.arts.gov/news/news07/Challenge.html

Arts Advocacy Day 2008, March 31-April 1

The 21st annual Arts Advocacy Day is the only national event that brings together a broad cross section of America's cultural and civic organizations, along with hundreds of grassroots advocates from across the country, to underscore the importance of developing strong public policies and appropriating increased public funding for the arts. LEARN how to lobby congress. NETWORK with other attendees from your state and across the country. BE HEARD by your members of Congress when you visit them to make the case for the arts and arts education. For more information or to register, please visit Americans for the Arts web site at: www.artsusa.org/events/2008/aad/default.asp.

March is National Youth Art Month

National Youth Art Month is an annual observance each March to emphasize the value of art education and to encourage public support for quality school art programs. The focus of this month is to convey to the public that art education develops self-discipline, self-esteem, and a sense of pride in self-expression. Youth Art Month has been observed nationally since 1961.

April Is Jazz Appreciation Month

In music education, April has been designated as "Jazz Appreciation Month" by the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in cooperation with various music education groups and organizations. The purpose of this celebration is to raise the awareness of the public about the impact of jazz on music history, to appreciate the figures of jazz and to encourage young people to become jazz musicians. To learn more visit Smithsonian's web site at www.smithsonianjazz.org. Lesson plans for middle school students are available at the National Association for Music Education's web site at www.menc.org/guides/jazz/Lesson.html.

The BIG READ

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts, designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The NEA presents The Big Read in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest. The Big Read brings together partners across the country to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment.

The Big Read answers a big need. "Reading at Risk: A Survey of Literary Reading in America," a 2004 report by the National Endowment for the Arts, found that not only is literary reading in America declining rapidly among all groups, but that the rate of decline has accelerated, especially among the young. The concerned citizen in search of good news about American literary culture would study the pages of this report in vain. The Big Read aims to address this crisis squarely and effectively. It provides citizens with the opportunity to read and discuss a single book within their communities. The initiative includes innovative reading programs in selected cities and towns, comprehensive

resources for discussing classic literature, an ambitious national publicity campaign, and an extensive Web site providing comprehensive information on authors and their works.

Each community event lasts approximately one month and includes a kick-off event to launch the program locally, ideally attended by the mayor and other local luminaries; major events devoted specifically to the book (panel discussions, author reading, and the like); events using the book as a point of departure (film screenings, theatrical readings, and so forth); and book discussions in diverse locations and aimed at a wide range of audiences.

Ten communities participated in the pilot phase of The Big Read. The communities, selected through a competitive review process, ranged across the country from major metropolitan areas to small rural towns. Communities in the pilot phase read one of four books: F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*, Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, or Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Activities occurred from February 2006 through June 2006. The Big Read continues

to expand to include more communities and additional books.

Application Process: The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The NEA presents The Big Read in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest. The Big Read brings together partners across the country to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment.

Approximately 300 organizations in communities of varying sizes across the country will be selected to participate in The Big Read from September 2008 through June 2009. Intent to Apply (strongly encouraged): January 11, 2008; Deadline for submission: February 12, 2008. Please note: Applicants will be notified of their application status in late April 2008; and the programming cycle has changed, and now extends to events from September 2008 through June 2009. The Big Read granting schedule is now on an annual basis. For more information, please visit: www.neabigread.org.

Events Calendar

Phone numbers provided when possible. Area code is 701 unless otherwise stated. Please call phone numbers listed for tickets and/or more information on each event. For additional event information please visit NDCA's web site at www.nd.gov/arts.

BISMARCK/MANDAN

January

- 13 Missouri Valley Chamber Orchestra (MVCO) presents "British Sterling" 3pm, Trinity Lutheran Church
- 18-20 Bismarck-Mandan Civic Chorus' An Evening on Broadway 7:30pm; Sun, 3pm. Sidney J. Aud, BSC
- 25 Winter Wonderland, Central Dakota Children's Choir (CDCC), Bel Canto, 6:30-9pm. Frances Leach High Prairie Arts & Science Complex
- 26 CDCC, Angelica, 11am-4pm. Barnes and Noble Book Fair

February

- 2 CDCC, Jubilate, 11am, Kirkwood Mall
- 2 Live Art in Motion, 10am-4pm Kirkwood Mall. A cultural, performing & visual arts event Call 222-6640
- 9 The Symphony holds its annual Young Artist Competition. Call 258-8345
- 9 Symphony Subscription concert. Mr. Jason Love, at the podium. Tonya Mertz, featured soloist. Call 258-8345 for ticket info
- 10 Bismarck-Mandan Orchestral Association (BMOA) presents "3rd Conductor Candidate" Guest artist is winner of the Collegiate Young Artist Competition. 7:30pm, Belle Mehus City Auditorium
- 16 The Concordia Choir performs at 7:30pm at the Trinity Lutheran Church. Conductor is Rene Clausen. For tickets and more info, call 223-3560
- 22 NDCA's Board meeting. Workforce Safety & Insurance Board room, 1600 East Century Ave, 1-3:30pm
- 23 MVCO presents "Wine & Roses" a fund-raising concert for MVCO, 7:30pm, Trinity Community Center
- 23-24 2nd Annual "Choreographer's Showcase" features a one-act ballet, "A Midsummer's Night Dream" along with works from ND choreographers. Call 530-0986, or visit www.npb.org
- 26 Poetry Out Loud State Finals, free and open to the public. ND Heritage Center

March

- 1 CDCC, Jubilate, 7pm. Bobcats Game, All Seasons Sports Arena
- 7 Bismarck Art & Galleries Association's Annual Wine Taste, 7-10pm. Bismarck Country Club
- 15 BMOA presents "Spring Pops" Symphony Swing, conductor Dennis Gowen; Lisa Henry, guest artist; and Scott Prebys Jazz Trio. 7:30pm, Belle Mehus Call 258-8345 for ticket info
- 20 6th Grade Educational Concert Series, CDCC, Kantorei 9-10:30am. Simle Middle School
- 27-29 ND Music Educators Conference Bismarck Civic Center. Fargo Moorhead Area Youth Symphonies Senior High Symphony Orchestra performs Mar 27 at 7:30pm; CDCC, Cantus performs Mar 28 at 4:30pm
- 29 The Symphony's 3rd Annual Steinway Recital. Students perform at the Belle Mehus, in partnership with the ND Music Teachers Association. Call 258-8345 for more info

April

- 6 MVCO presents "American Voices" 3pm at Trinity Lutheran Church
- 7 NDCA hosts the ND Statewide Conference on Careers in the Arts for People with Disabilities 10am-4pm (registration open at 9am), Kelly Inn Hotel. For more info call 328-7594
- 13-19 An Da Union, a musical group from Inner Mongolia, will be in Bismarck as a part of Midwest World Fest. For more info visit www.artsmidwest.org/programs/mwwwf.asp
- 19 BMOA presents "Season Finale" Conductor Dennis Gowen 7:30pm. Guest artist is winner of Collegiate Young Artist Competition. Belle Mehus

DICKINSON

January

- 20 Ukrainian Cultural Institute sponsors Ukrainian Folk Fest. Malanka ushers in the new year with a mix of old and new traditions. 12 noon, everyone welcome. For more info call 483-1486

February

- 14-17 "A Flea In Her Ear" 8 pm, Dorothy Stickney Auditorium

April

- 17-19 & 24-27 "Food for Fish" 8 pm, The Backstage Theatre

FARGO/MOORHEAD

January

- 12 Jazz Day, All Day, Hvidsten, Christiansen Recital Hall, Concordia College
- 26 The Jazz Arts Big Band featuring Wayne Bergeron, Trumpet, 8pm Fargo Theatre, www.jazzartsfm.com, or call (218) 359-4529

January (continued)

- 27 Fargo Moorhead Area Youth Symphonies presents "Into the West" 7pm. Reineke Fine Arts Center, NDSU
- 31-Feb 2 "How to Talk Minnesotan" Evenings, 7:30pm; Saturdays 2pm. Fargo Theatre

February

- 2 Opera on Broadway presents "La Festa Toscana Fundraising Gala" FM Opera's annual fundraising gala. Historic Black Building, Downtown
- 8-10 & 14-17 Fargo-Moorhead Community Theatre (FMCT) presents "Into the Woods, Junior" Evenings, 7:30pm; Sundays, 2pm. Tickets 235-1901, www.fmct.org
- 14-17 "Quilters" by Barbara Damashek & Molly Newman, Frances Frazier Comstock Theatre, Concordia College
- 20 NDCA, NDCPD and DWAC's forum to ascertain barriers & potentially effective strategies for promoting arts careers for individuals with disabilities. 1-4pm, Plains Art Museum. Open to the public, 328-7594
- 27-Mar 1 MSUM Theatre presents "Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street," 7:30pm, Roland Dille Center for the Arts Hansen Theatre. Tickets call 477-2271

March

- 5-8 The 8th Annual Fargo Film Festival, Fargo Theatre. Visit www.fargofilmfestival.com
- 6 Jazz Arts Group's "Springin' for Jazz" fundraiser, 5:30pm, Holiday Inn, I29 & 13th Ave. www.jazzartsfm.com
- 6 Regional American Choral Directors Association Conf, CDCC, Kantorei, 3:30pm
- 6-9 & 13-16 FMCT presents "Box Office of the Dammed" Evenings, 7:30pm; Sundays, 2pm. Call 235-1901
- 15 Celtic Festival at Hjemkomst Center, 10am-4pm, Free. Celebrate the culture of the seven Celtic Nations. For more info, call 241-8160 or visit www.fargoparks.com
- 15 The Jazz Arts Big Band featuring Mulgrew Miller, Piano, 8pm Fargo Theatre, call (218) 359-4529
- 29 "Bach and Blue," a music scholarship banquet, special guest Mike Christianson, 6pm, Avalon Event Center. Also features performances by MSUM students and faculty. Includes gourmet meal, silent auction & jazz combo with jam session. \$50 per person. Call (218) 477-2178

April

- 4 & 6 Fargo-Moorhead Opera's "Dueling Divas" featuring Metropolitan Opera Divas Cynthia Lawrence & Stella Zambalis and more! Apr 4, 8pm; Apr 6, 2pm. Reineke Festival Hall, NDSU

FARGO/MOORHEAD

- April (continued)**
4-6 & 9-13 FMCT repertory of "12 Angry Men/12 Angry Women" Evenings, 7:30pm; Sundays, 2pm. Call 235-1901
- 11 MSUM's Cheryl Nelson-Lossett Performing Arts Series. 120-voice VocalEssence Chorus & 32-voice Ensemble Singers, 7:30pm. Tickets call 477-2177
- 12 The Jazz Arts Big Band featuring John Fedchock, Trombone, 8pm Fargo Theatre, (218) 359-4529
- 13 MSUM's Symphony Orchestra, 2pm, NDSU Festival Hall
- 16-19 MSUM Theatre presents "The Last Days of Judas Iscariot" 7:30pm, Roland Dille Center for the Arts Gaede Stage. Tickets call 477-2271
- 22 MSUM's Cheryl Nelson-Lossett Performing Arts Series. Zenon Dance Company of MN, 7:30pm. Tickets call 477-2271 Roland Dille Center for the Arts Hansen Theatre
- 27 Oratorio Concert, 4pm, Memorial Auditorium, Concordia College

GRAND FORKS

For more info and Grand Forks region events, please visit: www.culturepulse.org

- January**
26-27 Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra (GGFSO), "Legend of the Keyboard" Jan 26, 7:30pm; Jan 27, 2pm. Empire Arts Center
- 27 North Dakota Museum of Art (NDMOA) Concert Series presents Darrett Adkins, Cello, 2pm. NDMOA

- February**
22 GGFSO, James Hannon, Conductor. UND Choir & Grand Forks Master Chorale, Joshua Bronfman, Choir Director; North Dakota Ballet Company, Job Christenson, Choreographer, 7:30pm, Chester Fritz Aud
- 24 NDMOA Concert Series presents Brillaner Duo, Clarinet & Piano, 2pm. NDMOA

- March**
16 NDMOA Concert Series presents Konstantin Soukhovetski, Piano, 2pm. NDMOA

HAZEN

- April**
25-27 41st Annual Hazen Artshow. Hazen City Hall. Visit www.cyberspacepromotions.com/art. Hazen Art & Craft Assoc

JAMESTOWN

- January**
19 Bluegrass & BBQ, 6:30pm. The Arts Center
- 31, Feb 1-2 Jamestown College Theatre presents "Being of Sound Mind" 7:30pm, call 252-3467 ext. 2435. Reiland Fine Arts Center

- February**
2 Wine & Cheese Tasting, 7:30pm. The Arts Center
- 23 Annual Gala, 6pm. The Arts Center
- 28-29 Jamestown College Theatre presents "Beneath Our Apple Tree" 7:30pm, 252-3467 ext. 2435. Reiland Fine Arts Center

- March**
2 Jamestown College Performing Arts Series: Boys of the Lough, 7pm, DeNault Aud, tickets call 252-3467 ext. 2551
- 6-8 Community Theatre "The Foreigner." The Arts Center
- 28-29 Last Annual Comedy Revue, 7:30pm. The Arts Center

- April**
3 Hampstead Theatre: Shakespeare for Kids. The Arts Center
- 6 Jamestown College Performing Arts Series: Patrick Mason, Baritone, 7pm, DeNault Aud, tickets call 252-3467 ext. 2551
- 14 Tom Roberts portrays Papa Hemmingway, 7pm. The Arts Center
- 17-19 Jamestown College Theatre presents "Six Characters in Search of an Author" 7:30pm, call 252-3467 ext. 2435. Reiland Fine Arts Center

LANGDON

- March**
14-16 Dinner Theater, 6pm, Langdon Research Center. Tickets avail at Cavalier County Republican, for more info call 256-5311

MINOT

For additional Minot area events, please visit: www.minotarts.org

- January**
8 NDCA, NDCPD and DWAC's forum to ascertain barriers & potentially effective strategies for promoting arts careers for individuals with disabilities.1-4pm, MSU Campus Library. Open to the public, 328-7594
- 10-13 Mouse River Players (MRP) "Charlotte's Web." 7:30pm nightly, Sunday 2pm. 838-3939
- 13 Linda Wang, Violinist, 3-5pm. International Artist Series. Call 858-0863. Ann Nicole Nelson Hall
- 18 Minot Community Concert Band Winter Concert, 7:30-9:30pm Gary Stenehjem & Tim Wollenzien conducting. No charge. Ann Nicole Nelson Hall
- 20 Dance Company of Minot's annual theme, "Night of Movies" 3-4pm. Dakota Square Mall
- 25 Minot Symphony Orchestra (MSO) Children's Concert, 9am-12pm. Ann Nicole Nelson Hall
- 25 MSO Winter Family Concert, 1-3pm. Ann Nicole Nelson Hall
- 25 Poetry, Art, & Song Night: 6:30-11pm. Taube Museum of Art
- 26 MSO Concert, 7:30-9:30pm. Ann Nicole Nelson Hall

- February**
2 Soup it up! Special Event 11am-2pm. Taube Museum of Art

- February (continued)**
8-10 Frozen Fingers Jazz Festival, Sleep Inn
- 14-16 & 21-23 Heritage Singers Annual Variety Show, 6-9pm. Vegas Motel, Seven's Restaurant
- 16 Dennis & Penny Simons Recital, 7:30-9:30pm. Ann Nicole Nelson Hall
- 23 Dance Company of Minot's annual theme, "Night of Movies" 3-4pm. Dakota Square Mall
- 28-Mar 2 MRP's "Don't Hug Me" 7:30-9:30pm; Mar 2, 2-4pm. Call 838-3939 for more info. Arlene Saugstad Theater

- March**
1 MSO & Minot Chamber Chorale (MCC) "Mid-Winter Songs" 7:30-9:30pm. Ann Nicole Nelson Hall
- 13-15 MSU Theatre presents "21-A" 7:30-9:30pm. Black Box Theatre, MSU. Call 858-3172
- 16 Angela Jia Kim, Pianist 3-5pm. International Artist Series. Call 858-0863. Ann Nicole Nelson Hall
- 25 Dr. Erik Anderson Concert, 7:30-9:30pm. Ann Nicole Nelson Hall
- 27-29 MSU Theatre presents "Bash" 7:30-9:30pm. Black Box Theatre, MSU. Call 858-3172
- 28-30 Annual Quilt Show, Mar 28, 12-9pm; Mar 29, 8am-5pm; Mar 30, 9am-4pm. Grand International
- 29 Wine Tasting Experience Event with Minot Symphony. Taube Museum of Art

- April**
3-6 Minot Area Theatrical Society presents "Playing Doctor" 7-9pm; Apr 6, 2-4pm. Dinner Theater. Parker Senior Center
- 12 MSO Concert, 7:30-9:30pm. Annual Pops concert. Ann Nicole Nelson Hall
- 12 Nodakords Annual "Good Time Music Show" 7:30-9:30pm. Holiday Inn
- 22 On Broadway! 7:30-9:30pm. International Artist Series. Call 858-0863. Ann Nicole Nelson Hall
- 24-27 MSU Theatre presents "I Hate Hamlet" 7:30-9:30pm; Apr 27, 2-4pm. Aleshire Theatre, MSU
- Apr 27 MCC Spring Concert & Ice Cream Social "A Musical Palette" 4-6pm. Zion Lutheran Church

PEKIN

Call 296-4515 or email bebjorlie@stellarnet.com

- January**
20 Soundfest 2008, 3-8pm. Local artists. Enjoy great music and food. Pekin Community Center

- March**
2 Annual Art Auction, 3pm, Pekin Community Center

VALLEY CITY

- February**
20-23 "South Pacific" by Rogers & Hammerstein, 7:30pm, Theatre 320 in Vangstad

VALLEY CITY

- March**
13 VCSU Concert Band & Choir
Pops Concert, 7:30pm, Vangstad
- April**
4 Four Shadow, 7:30pm, Vangstad
20 VCSU Concert Choir, Valley
Voices, Valley Children's Choir,
7:30pm, Epworth United
Methodist Church

WAHPETON

- January**
1-31 ND Junior Duck Stamp &
Wahpeton Park Board Photo
Contests, Wahpeton Parks &
Recreation, call 642-2811
- February**
19 NDSCS Variety Show, Stern
Cultural Center, 7:30pm
26-28 Children's Play, for children by
NDSCS students, Stern
Cultural Center, 10am, 1pm &
7:30pm, 671-2520
- March**
8 John Bayless/Twin Town
Artist Series, Stern Cultural
Center, 7:30pm, 642-4586

WILLISTON

- February**
7-11 Entertainment, Inc! presents
"Noises Off" A Broadway
comedy classic. Call 577-3179,
Old Armory Theatre
10 "2nd Sunday" TBA, 3pm.
James Memorial Art Center,
call 774-3601
15 "Soup's On" fundraiser, 11am-
2pm. James Memorial Art Center
- March**
9 "2nd Sunday" TBA, 3pm.
James Memorial Art Center
27-31 Entertainment, Inc! presents
"Chicago" the musical. Call
577-3179, Old Armory Theatre
- April**
13 "2nd Sunday" TBA, 3pm.
James Memorial Art Center



Phone numbers provided
when possible. Area code
is 701 unless otherwise
stated. Please call phone
numbers listed for more
information on each
exhibit. For additional
exhibit information please
visit NDCA's web site at
www.nd.gov/arts.

BISMARCK/MANDAN

- January**
Thru Jan 29 "A Decade After
Disaster" an exhibit about the
severe weather during the
96-97 season. ND Heritage Ctr

- January (continued)**
Thru Jan 31 All member exhibit:
"Landmarks and Landscapes"
Gallery 522
3-Mar 31 Robb Siverson's work will
be on display in the offices of
Governor Hoeven, First Lady
Mikey Hoeven and the
Attorney General's Office.
Bismarck State Capitol Bldg
8-29 Quilt Show; Member Artist,
TBA. Rec Jan 11, 5-7pm.
Bismarck Art & Galleries
Association (BAGA)
29-Feb 23 Michelle Lindblom,
Bismarck; Member Artist,
TBA. Rec Feb 1, 5-7pm. BAGA

- February**
26-Mar 21 Lundberg Family Exhibit;
Rural ITV Students. Rec Feb 29
5-7pm. BAGA

- April**
1-25 South Central, Century &
Bismarck High School-Local.
Rec Apr 4 , 5-7pm. BAGA
1-Jun 30 Marsha Lehmann's work
will be on display in the
offices of Governor Hoeven,
First Lady Mikey Hoeven and
the Attorney General's Office.
Bismarck State Capitol Bldg

CASSELTON

- Monthly**
Featured North Dakota Artists
Receptions include free wine
& cheese. Maple River
Winery, 347-5900

DICKINSON

- January**
7-Feb 1 "Wheelin' & Dealin'"
Lazertran Prints by Yvonn
Quijano, Art Faculty at DSU.
Dickinson State University Art
Gallery
- February**
4-29 "The Moving Line" a collection
of prints by Kathleen King,
Professor of Art at Kansas
State Univ. DSU Art Gallery
- March**
1-Apr 1 "ReFresh Print Biennial II:
Global Networks & Intimate
Exchanges" a nationally
known touring juried print
exhibition. DSU Art Gallery

- April**
6-May 2 "Senior Art Exhibition" DSU
annual Senior art exhibit. DSU
Art Gallery

ELLENDALE

- Monthly**
Ellendale Artists' Showcases,
the Ellendale Council on the
Arts features the works of
local artists or crafters in
one of the historic buildings.
Call Marilyn at 349-3178 or
Katie at 349-3842

FARGO/MOORHEAD

- January**
Thru Jan 6 "A Considered View:
Photographs of Wayne
Gudmundson." Features 63
major works spanning four
decades of work. Schlossman
Gallery, Plains Art Museum
Thru Jan 13 "Quilts: Fiber for
Thought" Features contemporary
quilts from artists in a five-
state region: IA, MN, MT, ND
and SD. Jane L. Stern Gallery,
Plains Art Museum
Thru Jan 18 Broad, by Deborah Mae
of Hawley, MN. Etchings,
wood engravings, lithographs
& paintings. Rourke Art Museum
Thru Jan 18 The Alchery of Raku,
by Richard Gruchalla and
Carrin Rosetti of Duluth, MN.
The Rourke Art Museum
Thru Jan 27 "The Drawing Guild:
Work by MSU-Moorhead
Students" Serkland Law Firm
& Excel Energy Galleries,
Plains Art Museum
Thru Feb 17 Annual Faculty Art
Exhibition. Cyrus M. Running
Gallery, (218) 299-4623
Thru Feb SheARTS Project, art hats
for breast cancer awareness.
Complementary display to A
Woman's Perspective on
Compassion Multimedia Art
Exhibition. Heritage Hjemkomst
Interpretive Center (HHIC)
Thru Mar Compassionate Quilting:
Community Service Quilts, a
complementary display to A
Woman's Perspective. HHIC
8-Mar 29 A Woman's Perspective Art
Exhibition presents Mary
Pfeifer, paintings and narratives
Nichole's Fine Pastry, Fargo.
Event schedule available at
awp.handworks.org
12-Mar 28 A Woman's Perspective
Art Exhibition: Shoe Art Show.
Rec Jan 13, 1:30-4:30pm. HHIC
14-30 Visiting artist Wendy
DesChene, member of the
Auburn University art faculty,
presents her multimedia
"WYSIWYG" installation.
MSU-M Center for the Arts
Gallery

- February**
Thru Mar 30 Window on the West:
Views from the American
Frontier from the Phelan
Collection. Plains Art Museum
Thru Mar 31 Still: Prints by Eric
Johnson, artist from Embden,
ND. Café Muse by Mosaic
Foods, Plains Art Museum
4-28 Rando Exhibit. The Snow and
the Rose. 237-0230. Spirit Room
7-May 18 Art View: Watercolors by
Caroline A. Doucette, Rugby
artist. Plains Art Museum
28-Mar 30 School Spirit: Celebrating
Youth Art Month. Plains Art
Museum

- March**
1-31 The Great Winter Crow Show
Prospectus available online at
www.spiritroom.net. Spirit Room

FARGO/MOORHEAD

March (continued)
10-Apr 6 Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition, Cyrus M. Running Gallery, Concordia College

April
1-30 "Coppersmithing: New Look - Ancient Art," by Jan Campbell & Mike Kennelly. Spirit Room. Rec Apr 5 at 6:30pm
14-May 4 Senior Art Exhibition, Rec May 3, Cyrus M. Running Gallery, Concordia College

Ongoing - Plains Art Museum
"International Harvester Historical Photographs" Café Muse
"The Art of George Pfeiffer" Landfield Atrium
"Keys to the Collection: Works from the Permanent Collection" Fred Donath, Jr. Memorial Gallery
“Community Connections” features recently produced artwork by students. Lesmeister Gallery
Selections from Hannaher’s Inc. Print Studio. Lesmeister Gallery

GRAND FORKS

For more info and Grand Forks region exhibits, please visit:
www.culturepulse.org

September
January
Thru Jan 20 "Warren MacKenzie: Legacy of an American Potter" Warren’s one of MN's greatest treasures. Features over 200 works of various styles, forms. North Dakota Museum of Art

Ongoing
Exhibit of artwork by more than 50 artists. Browning Arts Gallery. Call 746-5090

Exhibit of Artwork by North Dakota artists. Dakota Collection Gallery. Call 775-2521

JAMESTOWN

January
10-Feb 16 Pat Marquard: The Upward Spiral. Paintings of cathedrals and churches throughout the world by Minot artist Pat Marquard. The Arts Center

MINOT

For additional Minot Area Exhibits, please visit: www.minotarts.org

January
Thru Jan 4 "Works from the MSU Permanent Collection" Hartnett Hall Gallery, MSU
Thru Jan 12 "Portrait Show" 62 Doors Gallery and Studios
Thru Feb 23 "En Route" by Jason Hargrove & Polka Dots & Crooked Trees by Eric Johnson. Rec Jan 10, 5:30-7pm Taube Museum of Art
7-Feb 19 "Formed Paper Sculptures" James W. Coates, Jr., Rec Jan 15, 6:30-8pm. NW Art Center, Library Gallery, MSU

January (continued)
15-Feb 27 "Americas 2000: Paper Works" National Juried Exhibition. Rec Jan 15, 6:30-8pm. NW Art Center, Hartnett Hall Gallery, MSU

February
25-Mar 25 "Customized" Ceramics an Automotive Theme by Jim Bailey, Minot, ND. Library Gallery, MSU
26-Apr 4 Full Gallery: Art Under Construction. Rec: Mar 6, 5:30-7pm. Taube Museum of Art

March
10-Apr 2 MSU Art Faculty Biennial Show, Hartnett Hall Gallery. Rec Mar 10, 6:30-8pm
31-Apr 28 "Wheelin' & Dealin'" Digital Prints by Yvonn Quijano of Dickinson, ND. Library Gallery MSU. Rec Apr 9, 6:30-8pm

April
9-May 1 MSU Juried Student Art Show, Hartnett Hall Gallery. Rec with Juror Yvonn Quijano, Apr 9, 6:30-8pm
15-May 2 Full Gallery: ND Juried Student Art Show. Over 800 works. Taube Museum of Art

PEKIN

April
13-16 Students Art Show, 2-6pm
Pekin City Auditorium

WILLISTON

January
6-31 ND Juried Student Art Traveling Show. Rec Jan 13 5-7pm. Free, open the public. James Memorial Art Center (JMAC), call 774-3601

February
1-29 Artwork by Linda Whitney. Free, open the public. JMAC

March
1-12 Northwest Regional Student Show. Free, open the public. JMAC
15-30 Upper Missouri Camera Club and Williston Woodworkers Annual Show. Free, open the public. JMAC

April
1-30 Photograph Exhibit by Rosanne Olson. Free, open the public. JMAC

Barnes & Noble Arts Programs Sponsorships

Barnes & Noble provides in-store fundraising opportunities, sponsorships, and donations to local and regional nonprofit organizations that focus the arts or K–12 education.

Applicants must be located in communities with company stores and should serve the greater good of the local community or region. A plan for promoting the program with Barnes & Noble should be included in the proposal. The deadline is ongoing.

For more information on this funding opportunity, visit their web site at www.barnesandnobleinc.com/our_company/sponsorship/Sponsorship_main.html.

Artspace Artist Survey Available

If you, or someone you know, would like to be a part of Minot’s own Artspace, contact the Minot Area Council on the Arts (MACA) about the artist survey.

Artist is defined as painters, sculptors, dancers, choreographers, writers, vocalists, instrumentalists, graphic artists, anyone involved in the design arts, filmmaking, and more.

Artspace will be designing and developing a multi-purpose arts facility in Minot that will include 25 artists live/work spaces.

Paper copies of the survey are available at the MACA office, 1809 S. Broadway, Ste. JG, or by calling (701) 852-2787. The survey is also available online at www.artspaceusa.org.

Midwest World Fest Coming to Bismarck

On April 13-19, 2008, “An Da Union,” a musical group from Inner Mongolia, will be in Bismarck as a part of Midwest World Fest. Midwest World Fest, a program of Arts Midwest, is a global arts, education, and outreach performing arts program designed to provide inspiring arts enrichment while it instills appreciation for diversity and encourages acceptance of others and their cultures.

Each cycle of Arts Midwest World Fest occurs over a two year period in which four global musical ensembles conduct week-long intensive residencies in selected communities throughout the Midwest. For more information on the Midwest World Fest program, visit www.artsmidwest.org/programs/mwwwf.asp.

Midwest World Fest partners for Bismarck area appearances are the North Dakota Council on the Arts, Bismarck Art & Galleries Association, Dakota West Arts Council, Cable Access Television, International Club, Bismarck Public Schools, Mandan Public Schools, Bismarck State College, Dakota Stage, Ltd., Downtowners Association, and Prairie Public Radio.

Call to Artists: 2008 Island Park Show

The Island Park Show is a two day juried arts and crafts show scheduled for August 23 & 24 at Island Park in downtown Fargo. Vendors from across the US will be showcasing their hand crafted fine art. This event has been a tradition in Fargo for over 30 years. An average of 10,000 people attend the Island Park Show each year. Admission is free for the public to shop under the shade of the trees in a beautiful park setting, listen to live entertainment and enjoy a variety of concessions.

Applications are due Friday, **February 15, 2008**. Applications are available at www.fargoparks.com/se_islandpark.

For more information, or to request an application by mail, call (701) 241-8160; or visit www.fargoparks.com.

Arts Opportunities

For more information on the following opportunities, please call the phone numbers or visit the web sites provided. Additional information and opportunities can be found on NDCA's web site at www.nd.gov/arts and click on "Arts Opportunities."

Film/Video/Screenwriting

Superfest International Disability Film Festival. Your Opportunity to Contribute to Disability Culture. Superfest, the world's longest-running juried international disability film festival, is seeking your entry for submission to our 28th film competition. Entry deadline is January 15, 2008 (post-marked). For detailed information, and to download an entry form, visit: www.culturedisabilitytalent.org. You can also e-mail: Superfest@aol.com; phone: 510-845-5576, or send a legal size SASE to: CDT, P.O. Box 1107, Berkeley, CA 94701.

Literature

The Apple Valley Review, a semiannual online literary journal, will be accepting submissions of poetry, short fiction, and essays for its Spring 2008 issue until February 15, 2008. Submissions are accepted year-round via e-mail. For complete submission guidelines visit www.applevalleyreview.com.

Get published. Americans for the Arts is seeking writers for its new publication, the Arts Education Information Quarterly (AEIQ), which will share expertise in advancing arts education. Submissions are always welcome; reviews take place quarterly. For more info email jabodeely@artsusa.org; or visit www.AmericansForTheArts.org/ArtsEducation/AEIQ.

Reflections- Midwest Living magazine. Tell us your story about a happening that typifies life in the Midwest. If we publish your essay (750 words or less, please), you get \$250. Send to: "Reflections," Midwest Living, 1716 Locust St., Des Moines, IA 50309-3023. On-going. For more info, visit www.midwestliving.com.

Multi-Disciplinary

Structure: Casting a spotlight on Architecture, Buildings, Bridges and anything man-made, the exhibition is open to all media. Show will be on view March 8-30, 2008. Entry deadline is February 7, 2008. For more info, contact Rockaway Artists Alliance: 718-474-0861, for entry forms and prospectus visit: www.rockawayartistsalliance.org.

VSA arts Derivative Composition. VSA arts is seeking visual artists with disabilities whose work is inspired by the performing arts. Open to artists (ages 18 and over) who are committed to their artistic progress and who have a physical, cognitive, or mental disability. Entry deadline is March 21, 2008. For more info visit: www.vsarts.org/PreBuilt/showcase/gallery/exhibits/DerivativeComp.

Of Women. Open to all women artists who are RAA members or who have previously exhibited with RAA. Entry deadline is March 26, 2008. Contact Rockaway Artists Alliance: 718-474-0861, for entry forms and prospectus visit: www.rockawayartistsalliance.org.

The ArtFILE Project. Education archive of artwork formatted into a PowerPoint ® gallery for the purpose of teaching art. For more information: Send #10 SASE to: The ArtFILE Project, Regulus Communications, Inc., 3015 Woodsdale Boulevard, Lincoln, NE 68502.

Music

The NAMM Foundation is accepting proposals for the following five initiatives: 1) The Sounds of Living: The Impact of Music Making initiative, Deadline: January 2, 2008. 2) Program Grants support innovative music learning programs from nonprofit public service organizations that reach new audiences with new protocols, Deadline: January 4, 2008. 3) The Sounds of Learning: The Impact of Music Education initiative, Deadline: January 15, 2008. 4) Scientific Grants support leading researchers and research teams in the fields of music research, Deadline: January 15, 2008. Applicants may only apply to one program. For detailed info, visit: www.nammfoundation.org.

Bucharest International JAZZ Competition, May 7-13, 2008. For Bands and Vocalists. Deadline for Application is postmarked February 10, 2008! For further details please visit: www.jmEvents.ro or email: jmrлуigi@dial.kappa.ro.

The 15th Bucharest International Music Competition, May 7-13, 2008, includes Flute, Clarinet. Registration deadline is March 1, 2008. For more info, visit: www.jmevents.ro/index.php?page=youth_concurs_2008.

Theater/Dance/Playwriting/Auditions

Auditions for Kirov Academy of Ballet, Washington, DC, is holding auditions for the upcoming summer sessions. Auditions held in Minneapolis, MN at the Minnesota Dance Theatre on January 12, 2008. For more info visit: www.kirovacademydc.org.

Barcelona Dance Award & Dance Grand Prix Italy 2008, March 20-24, 2008 in Barcelona (SPAIN) and in the end of June 2008 in Italy and in France. The Directors of Barcelona Dance Awards, present the 20th International Competitions and invite your dance group to performing and teaching at the most prestigious dance events in Europe. For more info, email awardance08@tiscali.it, or visit: <http://web.tiscali.it/awardance08>.

Visual Arts/Sculpture/Painting/Photography

The 44th Annual Jamestown Fine Arts Association Show will be May 1-31, 2008. Artists should contact the Arts Center by email, artscenter@csicable.net, to receive a prospectus. The exhibit is open to all artists and all media. For more info, call (701) 251-2496.

Artists Celebrating Christ (ACC) is calling all artists interested in Christian themes. Takes place March 13-15, 2008, at the University of Mary Benedictine Center, Bismarck, ND. Registration Deadline: January 12, 2008. To register, be put on the mailing list, or for more information, email info@accartshow.com, or call Shannon Wirrenga at (701) 255-7312.

The Lawrence Arts Commission's 21st Annual Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition. Entry deadline is January 28, 2008. Works that expand the idea of what public sculpture can be are encouraged. Visit www.lawrenceartscommission.org/odse21; email arts@ci.lawrence.ks.us; or call 785-832-3178.

Lakefront Art Festival, Washington Park, Michigan City, August 16-17, 2008. \$3,000 in cash awards. The 27th annual Lakefront Art Festival attracts thousands of visitors from surrounding states. Application and more details are available at www.lubeznikcenter.org. January 31, 2008 deadline. Call 219-874-4900 or email artinfo@lubeznikcenter.org.

The Sheila Schafer Gallery located in the Harold Schafer Heritage Center in Medora is seeking an art display for 2008. Medora is North Dakota's #1 vacation destination with annual visitors in excess of 250,000 each season. Deadline is January 31, 2008. For information contact B.J. at 1-800-633-6721.

Northern Colorado Weavers Guild's Fiber Celebration 2008 is NCWG's 34th Annual exhibit, and is national and international in scope. All fiber artists are encouraged to enter. The exhibit runs May 16-June 24, 2008 at Lincoln Center, in Ft Collins, CO. Entry form deadline is January 31, 2008. For a complete prospectus, or for more information, visit www.fortnet.org/ncwg; call (970) 454-2950; or email kristibott@what-wire.com.

2008 Island Park Show applications can be found online at www.fargoparks.com/se_islandpark or can be mailed out upon request. The Island Park Show is a two day juried arts and crafts show scheduled for Saturday, August 23 & Sunday, August 24 at Island Park in downtown Fargo. Applications are due Friday, February 15, 2008. For more info, call (701) 241-8160 or go to www.fargoparks.com. Katharine Butler Gallery, in Sarasota, FL, is seeking entries for 3rd Annual National Juried Exhibition April 16-May 10, 2008. Original 2D and 3D artwork in any traditional medium. Slide or CD deadline is February 15, 2008. For prospectus and application visit: www.kbutlergallery.com.

Red River Watercolor Society's National Juried Exhibition. The prospectus can be downloaded and printed from the rrws website or in PDF format at: www.hjemkomst-center.com/AWPProspectus07w.pdf. For the 2008 Show, we will NOT be accepting slides or digital media for the juror's consideration. We will be

asking all participants to submit 2, 8" x 10" photographs of their painting. Entry deadline is February 18, 2008. For more info call (218) 287-2065

Springfield Art Association's 20th Annual Edwards Place Fine Art Fair, September 20 & 21, 2008 in Springfield, Illinois. Application deadline is March 1, 2008. For more info, visit: www.springfieldart.org; or call 217-523-2631.

2008 Sacramento Arts Festival (October 24-25) & San Diego Arts Festival (November 28-29). American Arts Festivals. Strictly juried - limited to fine artists and contemporary craftspeople producing their own work. Application deadline is March 31, 2008. Apply online at www.zapplication.org. For more information, visit www.americanartfestivals.com; email info@americanartfestivals.com; or call 805-461-6700.

The Tucson Airport Authority is seeking temporary art exhibits for the main Gallery and the Upper and Lower Link Galleries at Tucson International Airport. **Deadline is open.** For more info call 520.573.8187 or visit Tucson Airport Authority at: www.tucsonairport.org/html/tia_terminal_exhibits.html

Charlotte Area Transit System seeks professional artists for design collaborations and/ or public art commissions for its Art-in Transit Program. **Deadline is open.** For more info visit www.ridetransit.org and click on Art-in-Transit, or call 704-432-3017.

Upfront Gallery continues to book exhibitions for 2007, and is building a visual database of local and regional artists. This database will make artists more accessible to the public, and possibly function as an outlet for commission work and/or sales. Call 541-2640, or email: upfront512@yahoo.com. **Ongoing.**

Rockland Center for the Arts, (West Nyack NY). RoCA **accepts artist submissions on an ongoing basis** for the Sculpture Park and Gallery One. Visit www.rocklandartcenter.org/submissions.html for more information or email LynnStein@aol.com.

Open invitation: Java 101, Fergus Falls coffee shop accepting applications to display art. Call 218-205-7583.

Open invitation: Prairie Wetlands Learning Center of Fergus Falls, is seeking visual artists to display their artwork. Call 218-736-0938, email prairiewet@fws.gov.

ArtView. Plains Art Museum in Fargo, North Dakota, **Ongoing**, for more info visit: www.plainsart.org.

For Conferences, Institutes, Festivals, Classes, Workshops, Seminars, Grants, Residencies, Internships, Fellowships, and Scholarships, please visit our web site at www.nd.gov/arts and click on "Arts Opportunities."

Call to Artists!

Location! Location! Location!

The Sheila Schafer Gallery located in the Harold Schafer Heritage Center in Medora is seeking an art display for 2008. Medora is North Dakota's #1 vacation destination with annual visitors in excess of 250,000 each season.

The display would be scheduled from mid-April through mid-September and be viewed seven days a week. There are no admission fees and an opportunity to display and sell items. The artist is responsible for set up and tear-down at your own expense. Your display would have the chance to be viewed by visitors from all across the country giving your talent public acclaim and notice. **Deadline is January 31, 2008.** For more information contact B.J. at 1-800-633-6721.



CD's and Publications Available through the North Dakota Council on the Arts

The North Dakota Council on the Arts has a number of books and CD's available for purchase. Each provides information on North Dakota's rich and diverse cultural traditions. Additional information on each CD and/or publication is available on our web site at www.nd.gov/arts.

CD's/Recordings:
All CD's are \$15.95 plus 6% tax, and \$3.00 shipping/handling.

Spirit Woods, Traditional Stories and Songs of Forests and Trees

Achikadidi, Traditional Ma'di Music of Southern Sudan and Northern Uganda

Un de' che cha pi: The Way We Are by Mary Louise Defender Wilson

Faerie Harp by Debi Rogers and Sue Bicknell

At the Fiddler's Knee by Dick and Lisa Barrett

My Relatives Say, Traditional Dakotah Stories as Told by Mary Louise Defender Wilson

The Elders Speak: Dakotah and Ojibway Stories of the Land. Told by Gourd Woman and Eagle Heart

Morning Star Whispered, Traditional Stories and Flute Music by Keith Bear

Publications:
Add 6% tax, and \$3.00 shipping/handling to price.

Art for Life: The Therapeutic Power and Promise of the Arts (this is a free publication)

Faces of Identity, Hands of Skill: Folk Arts in North Dakota, By Troyd A. Geist. \$15.95

From the Wellspring: Faith, Soil, Tradition - Folk Arts from Ukrainian Culture in North Dakota, By Troyd A. Geist. \$15.95

Iron Spirits. Editors: Nicholas Curchin Vrooman, Project Director; and Patrice Avon Marvin. \$10.95

Prairie Patterns: Folk Arts in North Dakota, By Christopher Martin. \$25.00

Sister Rosalia's Lace, By Christopher Martin \$3.00

To place an order, call 701-328-7590, or send an email to comserv@nd.gov.



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